

COMMISIONERS PRESENT

Gil Palmer, Chairperson Ian Kohen, Vice Chairperson Trena Carter, Treasurer Kelly Benjamin Rhea Baker-Ipek John Roberts, Secretary Greg Lewis John Stroh Annette Barnes

COMMISIONERS ABSENT

Tony McClendon Richard Gold

STAFF PRESENT

Betsy Schuette, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

GUESTS PRESENT

Jeff Logston, City Attorney
Tim Shuffett, City Council Liaison
Wayne Hanrattie, Community member

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Commissioner Carter reported a correction to the June minutes, noting that a motion from a previous meeting the by Commissioner Roberts and seconded by Commissioner McClendon was listed in the June minutes.

Commissioner Carter moved that the June meeting minutes be approved with corrections. Commissioner Benjamin seconded. Motion carried. June minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Carter reported a total balance of \$5,409.37 in the Donation Account after ticket revenue and Annual Dinner expenses. In the Non-Reverting \$716.37 and with both accounts totally \$6,125.74. The Heritage Fund Grant account has a balance of \$2,311.02. This is the final balance remaining after all the expenses for the 'Adventures in DiversCity' grant awarded from Heritage Fund. Monies will be returned after the final report is submitted to Heritage Fund. Commissioner Roberts moved to adopt the Treasurer's Report.

Commissioner McClendon seconded. Motion carried. May Treasurer's Report was approved.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Palmer reported many inquiries from community members as to whether or not there is a 'Stand Your Ground Law' in Indiana. Discussion ensued.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No Report Due to Director's Absence.

PUBLIC FORUM

MLK 50th Anniv. Bus Trip to Washington:

At Director Smith's suggestion, community member Wayne Hanrattie attended the meeting to present information regarding his organization of a bus trip for the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington. He requested that the Human Rights Commission help to spread the word through our networking channels and support the spirit of the trip. He wanted the word to get out to all those interested in this opportunity and felt the Human Rights Commission could reach community members he did not have access to.

ACTION ITEMS

MLK 50th Anniversary Bus Trip to Washington:

After hearing the presentation by community member Wayne Hanrattie regarding his trip to Washington, the Commissioners constructed the following statement on the Human Rights Commission's support of the spirit of the trip: "The Human Rights Commission supports the Spirit of the 50th Anniversary of the March On Washington to take place at the end of August 2013. Any other statements on the behalf of the Human Rights Commission regarding the event should be directed to the Chairperson or Director." **Commissioner Benjamin moved to adopt the statement regarding the event. Commissioner Roberts seconded. Motion carried. The Statement was approved.**

Threads of Diversity:

The Ad-Hoc Committee met to discuss how to get the 'Threads of Diversity' video out and viewed by the community. The main goal is to provide more education, understanding, awareness and knowledge of the LGBT community to Columbus residents as to why some may not feel welcomed and at times threatened. The LGBT community would like Human Rights to show their support and endorsement by sponsoring a community viewing of the video. Discussion also included the best location to hold such a viewing. Commissioners gave suggestions as to groups or organizations that they would like to possibly view the video. The Ad-Hoc Committee is planning to make contact with some of those groups and organizations on the list as well as gather more information on a viewing location. The Ad-Hoc Committee members reported they are working towards supporting the LGBT community and are still working towards giving their recommendation. Item tabled until next Commission meeting.

LIAISON REPORTS

- Commissioner Baker- Ipek reported that Mary Carmichael came to the Interfaith Forum meeting to inform
 them of an illustrated booklet she found at her doctor's office in Mooresville, Indiana. The literature
 appeared to be hate literature geared towards children. It depicted anti-Islamist animation that disturbed
 her. The literature indicated it originated from an Evangelical Church. The Interfaith Forum has contacted
 the Pastor of this church as well as the publisher of the literature out of California expressing their
 discontent.
- Commissioner Baker- Ipek also reported the Sustained Dialogue has not had much activity except a letter
 of intent sent requesting funding that was not accepted. They will continue a more active schedule for the
 Sustained Dialog in the fall.
- Commissioner Lewis reported there was no July CAMEO meeting that he was aware of. The next meeting will be August 14th.
- Commissioner Stroh reported the Inclusive Community Coalition did not have a meeting.
- Commissioner Roberts reported Transit Authority Board was cancelled but will meet next month.
- Commissioner Barnes reported they have not met since the previous meeting.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Roberts announced his plans to step down as Dean of Liberal Arts and Science at Ivy Tech Community College on August 9, 2013. He plans to return to the classroom to teach during the academic year of 2013-2014 until the end of May 2014 at which time he will retire after teaching 44 years. He is currently working on his book he's writing about growing up on a farm titled "Tales from the Front Porch". Also he and his brothers have discussed a project speaking to children of father's who were killed in war. Their father was killed in the Korean War in 1951 when he was 18 months old which left a void in his life.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Lewis moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Stroh seconded. Motion carried meeting adjourned.